

MOTHERS NEWS

previously the Olneyville Ledger
previously the "Superman's Pal Jimmy Olsen" letters column
previously the Boston Ballet inter-office memo

SERIOUS DESKTOP

Welcome to November! If the year is a lifetime, and January is a toddling jazz baby, and December is an old begierdo diapering off to a comfy grave, November is a man wearing powder blue pants, pulling them up as high as feels right, strawhatted, waiting at a bus stop, carrying a tuna sandwich in a plastic bag, or ordering a tuna sandwich at a restaurant. Senescence, Acceptance, and Enjoyment Of Maturity. Not all the way to Looking Back On A Job Well Done, or even Winding Down, we are not interested in that. More like coasting on totally appropriate power levels, and being prepared for what comes. Here at the Mothers News office we know what's coming so we're getting ready to coze waaaay down for the winter: plasticizing the windows, stockpiling scifi books and films, and searching Craigslist for exercise bikes. Like Farmer Arepo to the right there, we plan on keeping the works in motion.

HOLIDAYS IN NOVEMBER

November is National Novel Writing Month, Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month, and the month dedicated to the Holy Souls in Purgatory (in the Roman Catholic Church). If you want your hair to grow faster, cut it on the 6th, 7th, 11th, 12th, 16th, 17th, or 20th of November. If you want to cut it so it stays cut for longer, try the 4th, 5th, 23rd, 24th, 27th, or 28th. The Leonids, a prolific meteor shower associated with the comet Tempel-Tuttle, will happen sometime between the 10th of November and the 21st, and will probably reach its apex on the 17th. The birth flower for people born this month is the chrysanthemum. "The white chrysanthemum / Even when lifted to the eye / Remains immaculate". Basho said that, he died on November 28, 1694. Basho was always saying cool stuff...

MOON NEWS

In addition to influencing the days on which you should cut your hair, the Moon provides reflected light at night, makes surfing possible, and may soon (already?) harbor human life in the form of lunar settlers who will SURELY die either (for some reason) young and gnarled or (for some reason) very old, smooth, and silvery.

There's a particular dignity to a thing that is named its own word. There are other moons (Io, Ganymede, Titan, etc.), but ours is just called "the Moon". Growing up we had a cat that came to us an adult stray, and we always just called him "the Cat". The Cat was a lot like the Moon- predictable, with weird moods, ineffable qualities, dark in color, but comparably reflective against a backdrop of infinite vastness. Both the moon and the cat appeared larger when closer to the horizon, in both cases a purely psychological effect. Both the Cat and the Moon have a texture not unlike snow and a smell not unlike spent gunpowder. At this point the similarities end. The Cat would wake me up by stepping on my face-- the effects of the Moon are more subtle.

-Gravitational coupling between the Moon and the bulge nearest the Moon acts as a torque on the Earth's rotation, draining angular momentum and rotational kinetic energy from the Earth's spin. In turn, angular momentum is added to the Moon's orbit, accelerating it, which lifts the Moon into a higher orbit with a longer period. As a result, the distance between the Earth and Moon is increasing, and the Earth's spin is slowing down. Measurements from lunar ranging experiments with laser reflectors left during the Apollo missions have found that the Moon's distance to the Earth increases by 38 mm per year. Atomic clocks also show that the Earth's day lengthens by about 15 microseconds every year.

- The prevailing hypothesis today is that the Earth-Moon system formed as a result of a giant impact: a Mars-sized body hit the nearly formed proto-Earth, blasting material into orbit, which accreted to form the Moon. Giant impacts are thought to have been common in the early Solar System.

- A longstanding European tradition holds that the man in the moon was banished for some crime. One medieval Christian tradition claims him as Cain, the Wanderer, forever doomed to circle the Earth. Dante's Inferno alludes to this:

"For now doth Cain with fork of thorns confine
On either hemisphere, touching the wave
Beneath the towers of Seville. Yesternight
The moon was round."

John Lyly says in the prologue to his *Endymion* (1591), "There liveth none under the sunne, that knows what to make of the man in the moone."

- Previous to current use, "to moon" meant "to wander idly" or "to pine romantically". Now of course it means what it means, an act that is alternately mocking, fun-loving, and both. In many traditions this gesture also has an apotropaic (good luck) element, as a mockery towards a supernatural enemy. In the United States, mooning someone or something is a form of artistic expression protected by the United States constitutional right of freedom of speech.

MORE POEMS

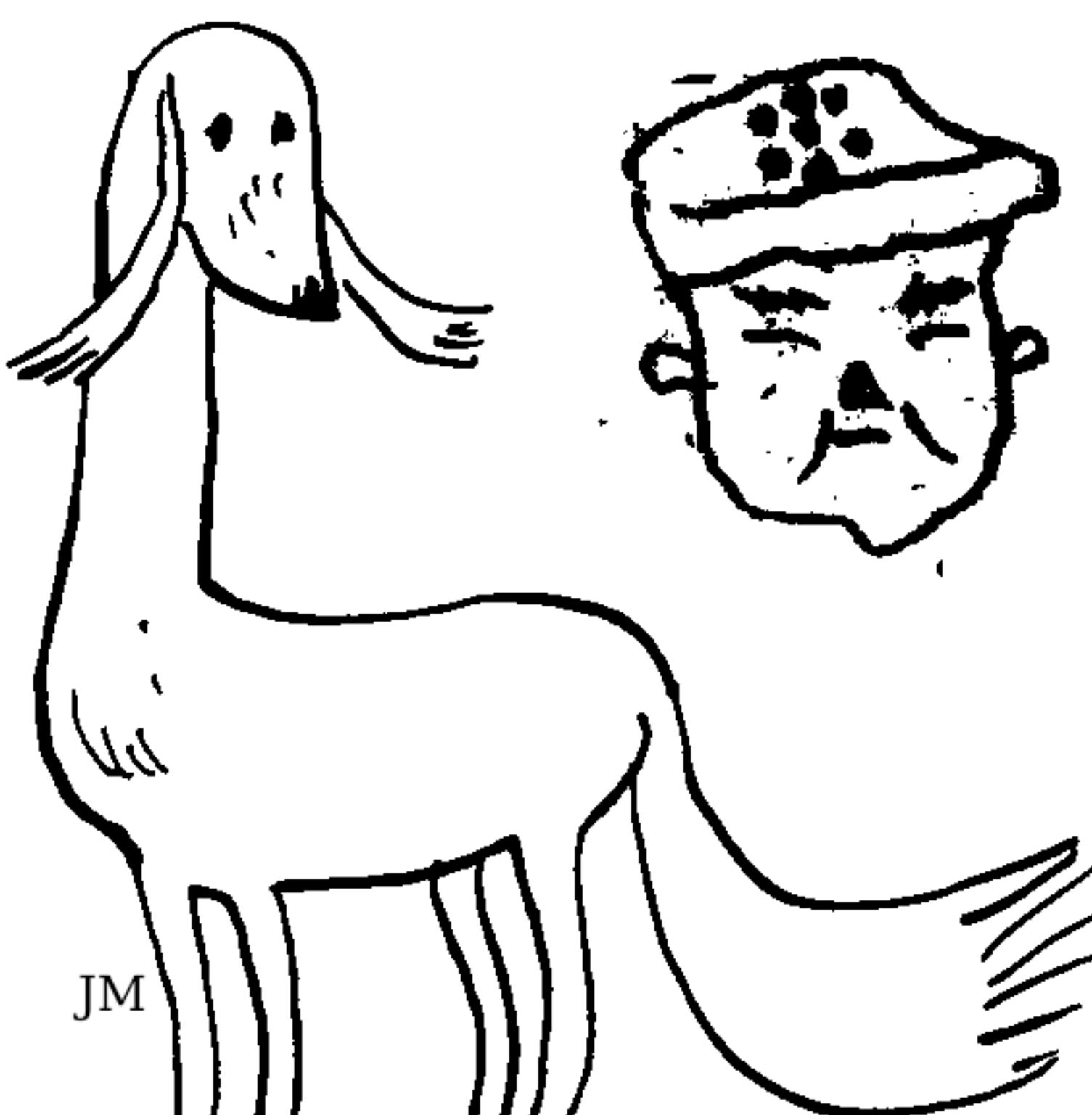
by MW
Beauty (2)

Beaming yes is
tilted, surely
yawn a quiet
subtle awl
to eye the slant
of wanted
purely
for its unromantic
sprawl



THEE AMBROSE BIERCE MEMORIAL WORD JUMBLE

by Ambrose Bierce before he died



HAIVENETCME - The death of endeavor
and the birth of disgust.

NLDCEGKEAOW - To confess.

ALYUCLAT - Perhaps; possibly.

SCENE REPORT: THANKSGIVING

Americans celebrate Thanksgiving on the fourth Thursday of November (the 25th). Thanksgiving is kind of the best holiday because you just eat a lot, play Scrabble, Uno, and Spoons, and walk away from inane political discussions. If you are at a Thanksgiving with kids, tell them that you put a sock (possibly theirs) in the stuffing, then took it out before serving. Never (ever) give a straight answer. If you are with teenagers, make sure they know the "caught texting at the table == let your aunt text your boyfriend" tradition. Another great tradition is after dinner (but before dessert) everyone goes for a walk around the neighborhood and when you pass another house full of people visibly still eating, one person from your group walks up to the house like they're just going to go in, grab a leg, and walk away. They should get soooooo close to ringing the doorbell, then spin around like "naw!!" while everyone else is seriously losing their shit. Later in the walk try to sneak away and hide, then jump out and scare people when they walk by. Tell your aunt you thought you saw a coyote while you were hiding and who here smells the most delicious and can they walk in front "just in case". When you get back home debate whether or not to draw on your sleeping dad's bald head with lipstick (he will not appreciate this), then eat 12 pies. If you're lucky someone's pet chicken has escaped and you have to run after it, and it gets into someone's minivan and craps all over the steering wheel. This is good luck. Stand in the most reverberant stairwell or bathroom in the house and listen to your someone sing opera, then play the shakeface digital camera game. Once you get to the part of the night where the crowd has thinned out and you're back in the kitchen making turkey sandwiches, that's when the serious bullshitting starts so pull up a chair and preface every good story with "OK, this story DOES NOT leave the kitchen. OK? OK? OK.". Be sure to point out that the sandwiches are always better than the dinner itself.

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MOTHERS NEWS

THE PAPER OF RECORD

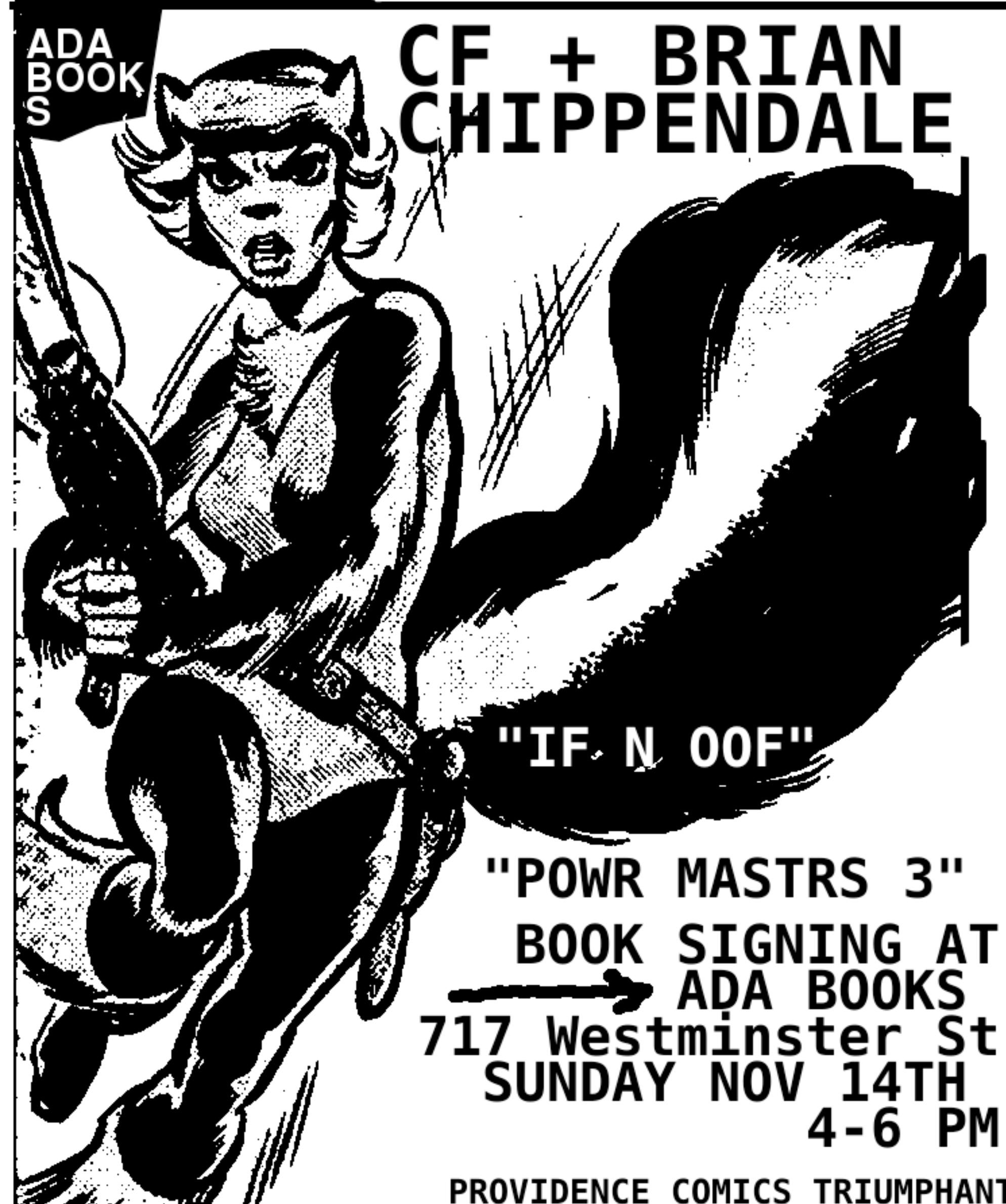
NB: this issue contains adult themes, like leather-bound books and boiled cabbage.

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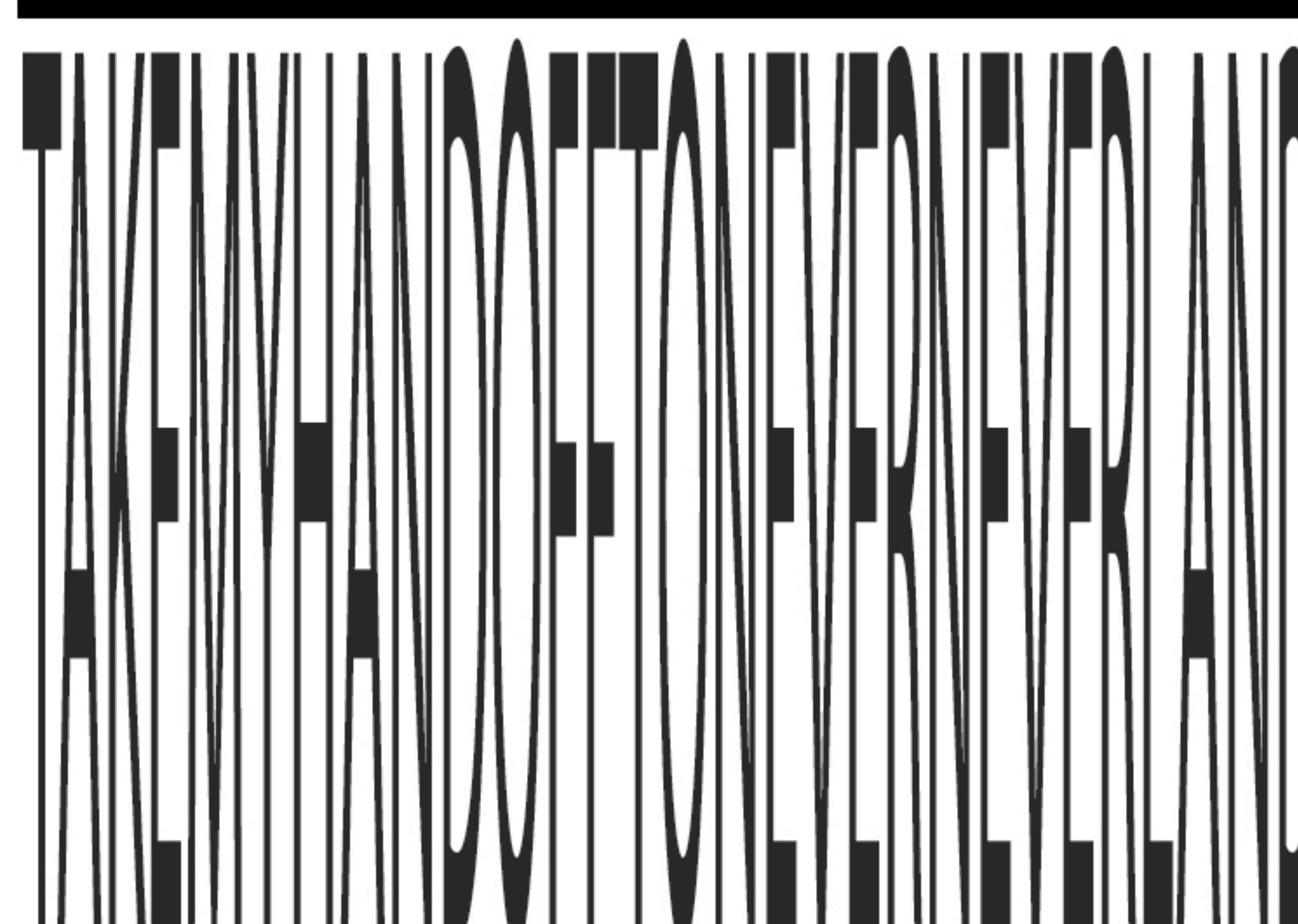


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for a day that seems
bad" - Cool Breeze

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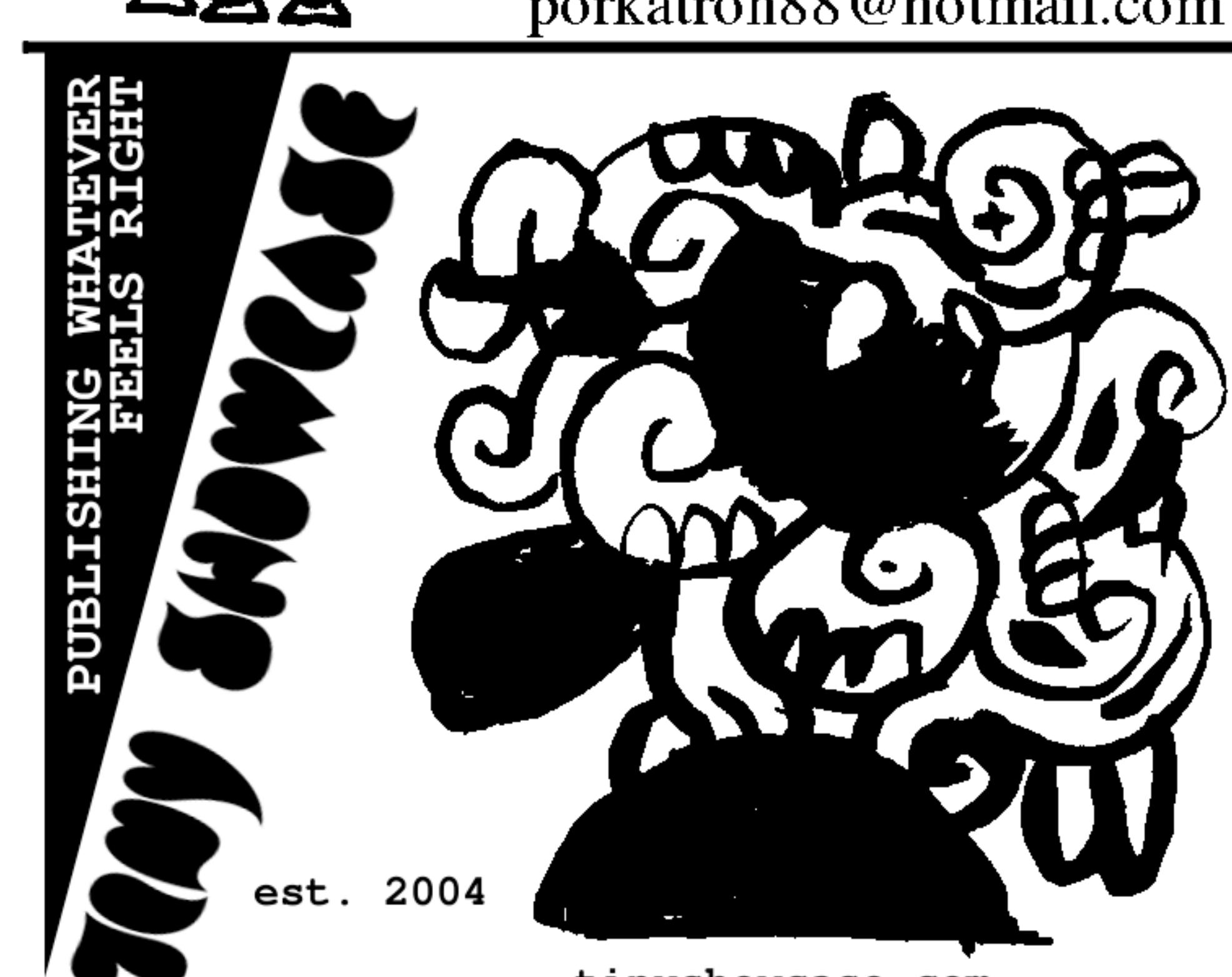
ALL MODERN LIFE IS DRAG-- THE OFFICELADY
AND PIZZAGUY ALIKE. ALL ARE KINGS AND
QUEENS IN PERFORMANCE OF NEW CLOTHES.
MAYBE YOU WANT TO DRESS LIKE A 50s 60s
or 70s BABE, YOU'D SHOP HERE.

144 BROADWAY PROVIDENCE RI

THESE SHOWS THIS MONTH
AT PARAGON

FRI 11/12 XELA WORK/DEATH BLACK TO COMM GEOFFREY MULLEN EARN (PRIVY SEALS) | 9 PM | REAL DONATION | DIRECTIONS: adam.morosky@gmail.com
TUE 11/16 CRAOW KOKOMO TIME GHOST FATHER FINGER IN HEAT (BELLOWSTINSELETEETH)
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THE FIREHOUSE WORCESTER MA
11/6: b.bros+goddard +tremache+daniel striped tiger
11/12: what cheer? brigade +shellshag+bonezone+street eaters
11/18: wham city presents: a night of comedy

FIREHOUSEWORCESTER.COM

jean says: "I'm not moving, just gonna be in new orleans for the month teaching some nerdy silkscreen stuff. write to me!"
c/o MEG TURNER
2114 MARAIS ST.
NEW ORLEANS, LA
ALSO: 70116
queer providence. hey!! tumblr.com

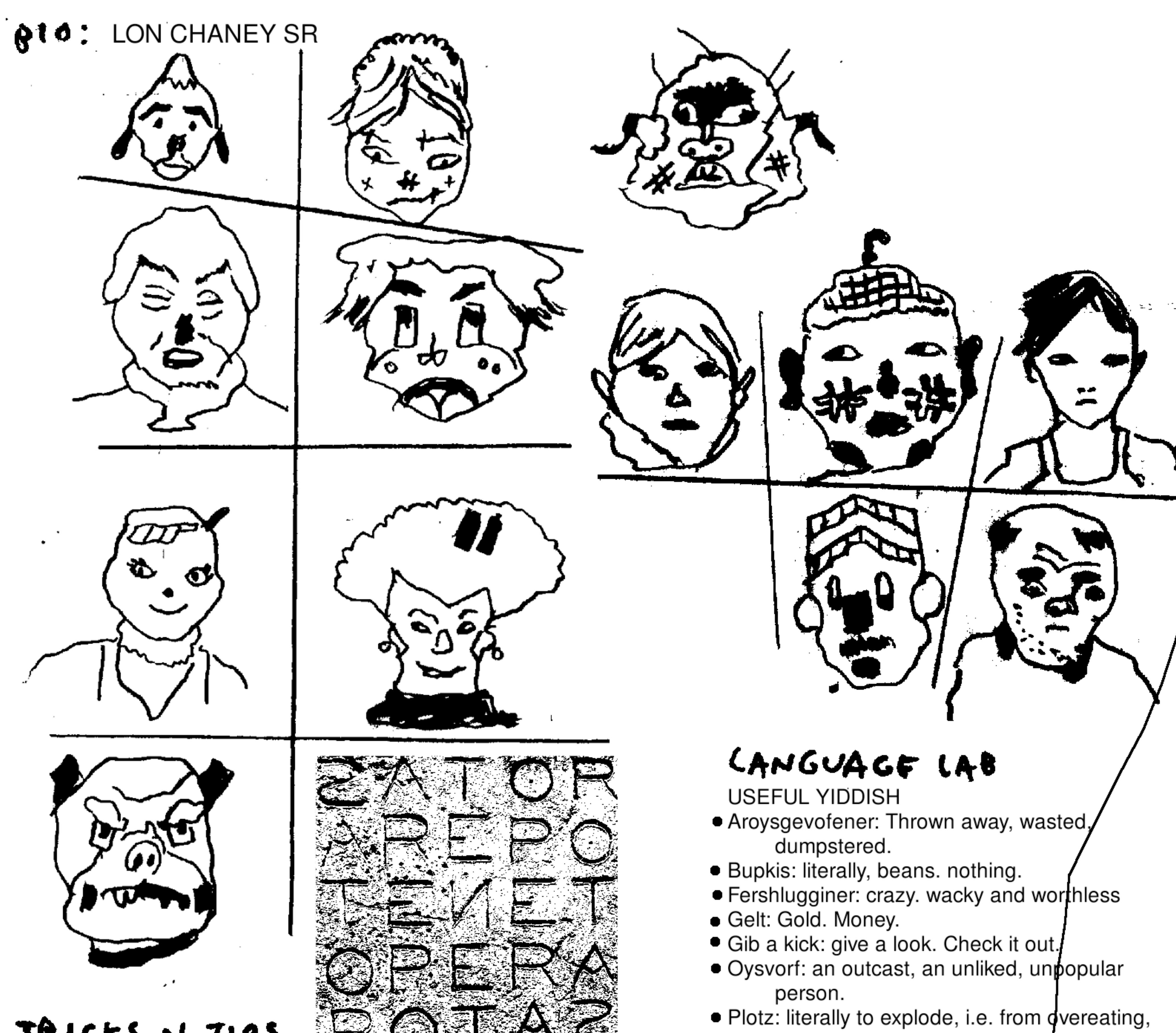
Psst! November's password is "BEZOAR" ("BEE zohr"). If anyone asks you for "Mother's Good Word", that's what it is. November only, if you need a password for any reason, and you want it to expire in a month, please use Mother's Good Word.

COOL DOG
Barf City CB Club
"the Broom Closet"
mon 13 20 21 22 ALL 40
73

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ALL 40



TRICKS N TIPS

Let's be honest with ourselves and start thinking about winter, about how it always takes its toll, and about the ways we can mitigate that toll. I think the most important thing we can do right now is get into good habits, because it's waaay easier to keep a habit than to initiate a major wellness campaign, especially when you're a little bummed out trying to not be too bummed out but you're bummed out enough that you kind of want to bail the campaign and stay bummed out. Here is a list of tips and tricks for sanity and personal development that we all need to start on TODAY so that once winter falls in a serious "John Carpenter's 'The Thing'" way, we are a bunch of scrappy and drug-rugged whimsically-somberroed Kurt Russells, not a pack of whiny idiot exploding dogs.

• Do 5 or 10 pushups (or crunches) every time you check your email, before you check your email. If you can't do "real" pushups at first, you're allowed to go only partway down, or from your knees rather than your toes, but you should work up to doing them the real way. Add more when you start getting ripped.

• If you have a hard time getting out of bed in the morning, PRACTICE getting out of bed during the day/at night. Set your alarm clock to 2 minutes in the future, get in bed under the covers, let your brain think you're going to bed, then when the alarm goes off, get up. Do like 3 reps a day, and pretty soon you'll have built a good habit of getting out of bed when the alarm rings and it's not a big deal. Seems silly but it works and the reason it works is that you're a different person at night than you are in the morning, but what you have in common is simple habit. I mean, you should get enough sleep, but sleeping too much will just make you more tired.

• It's important when you're working hard on some sort of problem-solving task (like editing a newspaper) to take a fully frivolous break (like throwing rocks at water) to provide time and space in which thoughts can coagulate into ideas. But during this downtime, don't think about the problem at hand! Don't think about anything. Similarly it's important to give yourself a present every day. Don't get decadent, but if you hold the reins too tight your horse can't even see where he's stepping! So take time out, get a V8, then get back on it with a refreshed and renewed (or at least misted) vigor. Build up some wintertime funmoney by putting all your change in a big juice bottle at the end of the day huh. To keep yourself from fishing out the silver all the time, put water in the bottle, enough to cover the coins an inch, making emptying it enough of a pain in the ass that you don't do it every day huh.

• Stay-at-home types need to still dress up. Wearing jammies all day because you can will ultimately bum you out. If anything you should dress up more the more important it is to get something done, even to ridiculous extremes. If your roommate tries to distract+entice you away from a project with, say, a pancake idea, but then they come to your door and you're screenprinting posters while dressed like marlene dietrich? They'll be like oh, you're in the middle of something, and you'll know that regardless of the extravagance of the madness, there's a true and blazing method. It might seem like you should look a slob so you'll be embarrassed to leave the house, but this is not productive!

GOSSIP SECTION

BABY BEAR got accidentally hit by a bottle at the ZARLAG show at CHEMICAL DUNGEON. Nothing broke, not even the bottle, and he's fine. He literally "took it on the chin". DIANA JOY is leaving town... frown face... JACK PRIAM earned his tin star as Sheriff of Barf City, ejecting some rowdies from the Hullaweenaballoo for saying bad things about Warwick, a proud and honorable Barf County township. Go Wizards! FRANK SANTORO seen browsing at ADA BOOKS, asking who the colorist was on assorted Penguin Classic Paperbacks. No one knew... NOT-ALL-THERE KENT threw a fit at the last BLOWED-OFF show on account of not enough breakable items scattered around the stage area... Them's the breaks, Nutty! Or rather, them's not! Speaking of a performer failing to create intrigue re: "is it going to break?", I saw TIM BLECHHER play a show at MIT the other day. It was cool... in parts... OK, I swear to GOD this is real- JESSICA RYLAN played (this is at the Maryanne Amacher tribute) and during her set she answered her phone TWICE! I could not believe it! Entire back row (KFW, REBAR, GARBAGE MAN, YRS TRULY) made 1 simultaneous slo-mo HOME ALONE "yessss" grab. Jessica- keep making tapes!!!!!!...KATY FOLEY's sub-legal nail salon has been evicted. But don't frown too down- plans are in the works to start a wood-fired salon/huff-yurt behind Meredith's house... CHRIS CORSANO is trying to grow a beard so if you see him for God's sake say something nice about how rugged he looks or did he just kill a guy or does he have a knife you can borrow for a couple days. I chose cattiness and he hit me 6 times before I hit the ground. In 5/8 time no less! GEORGE WASHINGTON MYERS is still fresh. Still a fresh dude. JONES CHANDLER seen at Cable Car Cinemas trying to sneak brunch into the theatre. I know it wasn't lunch because there was scrambled eggs and I know it wasn't breakfast because there was cantaloupe. Try that at the Patriot, B! I mean the ex-Patriot... GOOD LUCK!

LANGUAGE LAB

USEFUL YIDDISH

- Aroysgevofener: Thrown away, wasted, dumped.
- Bupkis: literally, beans. nothing.
- Fershugginer: crazy, wacky and worthless.
- Gelt: Gold. Money.
- Gib a kick: give a look. Check it out.
- Oysvorf: an outcast, an unliked, unpopular person.
- Plotz: literally to explode, i.e. from overeating, from excitement, from anticipation.
- Tuchus: (tuchk-uss) rear end, tush.
- Zaftig: literally, "juicy." in referring to people who are robust and healthy, curvy even, always a compliment!

ROLL YOUR OWN YINGLISH

- -veldt means town or place- venemsfeldt and eckveldt are "nowheresville" and "endsville" respectively. So geltveldt is "moneysville", moldsveldt is a dirty basement, and tuchusveldt is a bumpin dance floor.
- -nik means "thing (or person) that does the thing"- a beatnik beats on a bongo, a nogoodnik is "up to no good" and a noisenik is a person who likes/performers noise music.
- -mensch means "person" or "man". A luftmensch is an air-head. A linuxmensch is someone good at configuring open source software.

Yiddish is a wonderful and expressive language spoken mostly by old comedians. Why (you ask) is a language so rich in name-calling, sarcasm, and irony the least bit valuable, in a world already saturated with self-styled comedians, bitter castrated phonies, and meaningless "ironic" turd burglars? because in Yiddish there is a great closeness, rather than distance, and a great appetite, rather than refinement. it is a simultaneous "hey shut up /hey come here". everyone eats at bubbe's table!



MOTHERS TOP TEN

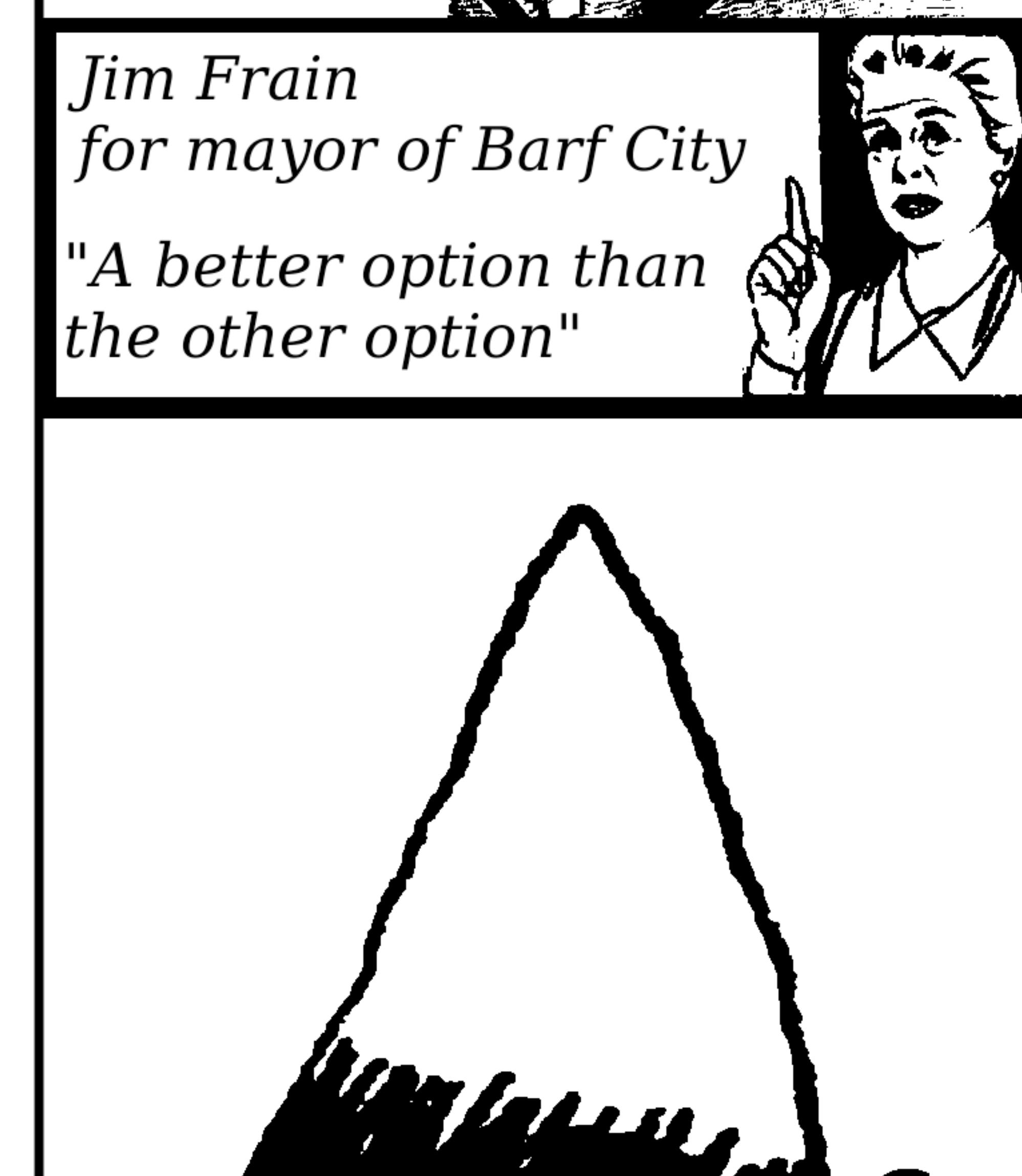
in no order

1. Homemade YOGURT. Homemade JAM. Yogurt is easy- 10 minutes work, then waiting overnight. Instructions are so findable. For jam I just crush up and lowwww boil straws or raspberries (frozen OK) and add (some) sugar. Remove when seems fine.
2. V8. unabashedly into it.
3. HALLOWEEN RULED! Cave Girls as CRASS, Cool Reason as Ramones. Definitely better than seeing either of those bands in the past 20 years.
4. JAMES MCSHANE new minicomic is called "James" (there are already (really good) comics called "Jim" and "Jimbo"). Also illustration in the NYTimes (aka "the other newspaper")!
5. HUMANBEAST "queer marriage" cassette / download. Now on tour! Rub their feet.
6. RAV #4 last and most fiercely ambivalent issue of Mickey Zaccilli's RAV comic. Get it online (plus #2 & #3) at mickeyz.org
7. DIMES - I just reached into my pocket and pulled out 90 cents exclusively in dimes. I feel like I just dipped my hand in ginch.
8. HOLLYWOOD BABYLON by Kenneth Anger
9. BURRITOS ON THE WEST COAST. They are super good and cost \$3. What's up with that?
10. TIGER TEA "the tea with the tiger on it."

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